

Claims

- [c1] A latch assembly for a door including a door retainer projection, said latch assembly comprising:
- a handle pivotally mounted to the door for rotation about a first end;
 - a latch actuator contacting said handle and mounted to the door for rotation about a first end, said handle rotating in one direction when actuated and said latch actuator rotating in a second direction opposite the first direction; and
 - a keeper engaged to the door retainer projection in a closed position, said latch actuator configured to disengage said keeper from the door retainer projection when said handle is actuated.
- [c2] A latch assembly in accordance with Claim 1, said latch handle comprising an actuator portion in sliding engagement with said latch actuator.
- [c3] A latch assembly in accordance with Claim 1, said latch handle further comprising a closed handle stop.
- [c4] A latch assembly in accordance with Claim 1, said latch handle comprising a pin and a longitudinal axis, said latch actuator comprising a pin and a longitudinal axis, said latch handle longitudinal axis displaced from said latch actuator longitudinal axis.
- [c5] A latch assembly in accordance with Claim 1 further comprising a bracket, said latch handle and said latch actuator mounted to said bracket.
- [c6] A door latch assembly for an appliance comprising:
- a door;
 - a latch handle pivotally mounted to said door; and
 - a latch actuator pivotally mounted to said door, said latch handle pivoting in one direction, said latch actuator pivoting in another direction, said handle selectively positionable between an open position and a closed position to couple said door to the appliance.
- [c7] A door latch assembly in accordance with Claim 6 wherein the appliance is a dishwasher including a tub assembly, said door comprising a door retainer projection, said latch assembly further comprising a keeper attached to the door

assembly for engaging said door retainer projection.

[c8] A door latch assembly in accordance with Claim 7 wherein said latch actuator comprises a keeper engagement surface, said keeper engagement surface disengaging said keeper from door retaining projection as said latch handle is rotated.

[c9] A door latch assembly in accordance with Claim 6 further comprising a bracket mounted to said door, said latch handle and said latch actuator hingedly attached to said bracket.

[c10] A latch assembly in accordance with Claim 6, said latch handle comprising a rounded engagement portion in contact with said latch actuator.

[c11] A dishwasher comprising:
a tub assembly comprising a keeper attached thereto;
a door assembly comprising a door retainer portion for engagement with said keeper;
a latch handle pivotally coupled to said door assembly for rotation about a first longitudinal axis;
a latch actuator pivotally coupled to said door assembly for rotation about a second longitudinal axis, said latch handle and said latch actuator rotationally coupled to one another, said latch actuator disengaging said keeper from said door retainer projection as said handle is rotated.

[c12] A dishwasher in accordance with Claim 11, said handle comprising an actuator portion in contact with said latch actuator.

[c13] A dishwasher in accordance with Claim 11 further comprising a bracket, said latch handle and said latch actuator coupled to said bracket.

[c14] A dishwasher in accordance with Claim 11 wherein said latch actuator comprises a substantially flat plate.

[c15] A dishwasher in accordance with Claim 11, said latch handle comprising a closed handle stop.

- [c16] A door assembly for a dishwasher, said door assembly comprising:
an escutcheon;
a latch handle pivotally mounted to said escutcheon about a first rotational axis;
a latch actuator pivotally mounted to said escutcheon about a second rotational axis; said latch handle contacting said latch actuator when rotated about said first longitudinal axis in a first direction and causing said latch handle to rotate about said second longitudinal axis in a second direction opposite said first direction.
- [c17] A door assembly in accordance with Claim 16, said escutcheon including a latch portion, said latch handle comprising a closed handle stop portion contacting said latch portion in a closed position.
- [c18] A door assembly in accordance with Claim 16, said latch actuator comprising a substantially flat plate.
- [c19] A dishwasher comprising:
a tub assembly comprising a keeper attached thereto;
a door assembly comprising a bracket and a door retainer projection for engaging said keeper;
a latch handle hingedly coupled to said bracket, said latch handle selectively positionable about a first longitudinal axis;
a latch actuator hingedly coupled to said bracket and rotatable about a second longitudinal axis, said latch actuator in contact with said latch handle, a position of said latch actuator determined by a position of said latch handle, said latch handle positionable to disengage said keeper from said door retainer projection with said latch actuator.